

1685

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WILLIAM J. PERRY
ARRIVAL STATEMENT
BUCHAREST, ROMANIA
JULY 17, 1994

SECRETARY PERRY: Good afternoon, I'm the Secretary of Defense of the United States William Perry, and I came to Bucharest for three purposes. First of all, to solidify the already strong bilateral relationship between the United States and Romania.

Secondly, to develop with Romania concrete plans for manifesting the Partnership for Peace. As you know, Romania was the first nation to sign the Partnership for Peace program, and we will be discussing tonight and tomorrow ways in which the United States and Romania can both work within the Partnership for Peace. For example, on joint exercises and joint training.

And finally I came because I had to pay a debt to Minister Tinca. When he visited Washington last month, I unwisely bet him that the United States would beat Romania in the soccer match, and I turned out to be on the losing end of that bet, and so I'm bringing three bottles of California wine to make good on my side of that bet.

And, it's a great delight to be in the country, a beautiful sunny day, and I'm looking forward to a very interesting and productive visit. Thank you very much.